IRISH STAMPS

THE COLLECTOR

irishstamps.ie 01/18

Bicentenary of the opening of the GPO
200 years of our General Post Office

Sir Alfred Chester Beatty
Honouring Ireland's great benefactor

Ninth Definitive Series Phase II
Phase II of 100 Objects

Love and Marriage
Another stamp to fall in love with

St. Patrick's Day
A day when everyone is Irish

John Redmond
Remembering a true nationalist 100 years later

150th Anniversary of INTO
A salute to the Irish National Teachers' Organisation

POST

The Irish Stamp Yearbook

The 2017 Irish Stamps Yearbook is the perfect gift for philatelists or anybody with an interest in Irish Culture and History. This 52 page book contains interesting and informative editorial and superb imagery on all of the subjects featured in this year's stamp programme, along with each stamp, miniature sheet, full technical details and first day of issue cancellations. The print run is limited to 900 copies, with each book individually numbered. Priced at just €80, order yours today!

Available from late November at Counters 20 and 21, GPO, O'Connell Street Lower, Dublin 1, D01 F5P2, or phone +353 (1) 705 7400 or online at irishstamps.ie

POST

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DEAR COLLECTOR...

Welcome to the first issue of The Collector for 2018. As we start a new year, our 2018 Stamp Programme comes into being. We at Irish Stamps hope the 2018 Programme catches your eye throughout the year!

Our first issue in January is of particular importance to all of us here at An Post: The bicentenary of the opening of the General Post Office (GPO) in Dublin's O'Connell Street. This is our headquarters, Dublin's principal post office and one of the most significant buildings in modern Irish history, as it was the base for the 1916 Easter Rising, which ultimately led to Irish independence.

A week later 18 January, 2018 we will issue four stamps to commemorate the life of the incredible Sir Alfred Chester Beatty, avid collector, mining magnate and philanthropist. He was also one of the most successful businessmen of his generation. Having built a library for his art collection during his lifetime, he bequeathed it all to a trust for the benefit of the public after his death.

On 25 January, 2018, An Post will continue the roll-out of the ninth definitive stamp series - A History of Ireland in 100 Objects, a selection - with the issue of the next collection of stamps in this series. For more information on the stamps and the objects visit 100objects.ie

Always popular in our annual Stamp Programmes are our Love and Marriage and St. Patrick's Day stamps, on pages 18 and 20. Whether you're a romantic at heart or enjoy Celtic designs, we have the stamp for you to collect, admire and enjoy!

Our fifth issue marks the 100th anniversary of the death of John Redmond, the Wexford politician, nationalist and man responsible for the act in the British parliament in 1914, that granted 'Home Rule'. The stamp features a painting by Sir John Lavery from The Hugh Lane Gallery in Dublin.

Our final issue for this edition celebrates the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Irish National Teachers' Organisation (INTO), the oldest and largest teachers' trade union in Ireland. Dublin design studio Detail has created a stamp that recognises the contribution the union has made to education in our country.

No edition of The Collector would be the same without our Last Chance Saloon section. Here you have your final chance to get your hands on stamps issued this time last year such as, Love and Marriage 2017, WB Yeats and the Noh Tradition, St Patrick's Day 2017 and Emoji. Don't miss out on having these in your collections!

Until Edition Two take care!

Joanne Ferris, Irish Stamps

Every effort is made to ensure images and information in The Collector are correct at the time of publication.
Products outlined are for illustrative purposes and may be subject to change without notice.

COMMEMORATIVE CANCELLATIONS 2017

Ninth Definitive Series 'A History of Ireland in 100 Objects, a selection' Phase I

Love and Marriage 2017

WB Yeats and the Noh Tradition

St. Patrick's Day 2017

Emoji

Royal Sites of Ireland

Europa – Castles

Centenary of founding of Lions Clubs International

Centenary of the Battle of Messines Ridge

150th Anniversary of the death of Thomas Meagher

2017 Women's Rugby World Cup

Irish Railway Stations

Centenary of the death of Francis Ledwidge

Centenary of the birth of Jack Lynch

50th Anniversary of Free Secondary School Education

National Ploughing Championships

Urban Street Art

50th Anniversary of the death of Che Guevara

Postcrossing

Centenary of the Apparitions of Fatima

Christmas 2017

2017 saw some unique and interesting cancellations created by our design team here at An Post to go alongside our stamp issues. Take a look above at all the cancellations issued by An Post in 2017 and check if you are missing any of these. If so treat yourself to a New Year gift with a copy of the 2017 First Day Cover Collection which is priced at €75.00. Available at **irishstamps.ie** by calling our sales team on +353 (1) 705 7400 or by filling out the Order Form attached to the back of this edition.

STAMP ISSUE OF THE YEAR AWARD 2017

Here's your chance to vote for your favourite Stamp Issue from 2017.
On page 7 you'll find the stamps chosen to represent each issue from 2017.

Simply fill in the entry form and send it to: Stamp Issue of the Year Award 2017, Irish Stamps, 4th Floor, GPO, O'Connell Street Lower, Dublin 1, D01 F5P2, Ireland.

The stamp issue that gets the most votes will receive the award, and if you have voted for this winning issue your name will be entered into a draw to win one of five prizes. The prize will consist of a set of Ninth Definitive Series First Day Covers and winners will be announced in a future edition of The Collector. Closing date for entries is Friday, 2 March, 2017.

1. Ninth Definitive Series 'A History of Ireland in 100 Objects, a selection' Phase I
2. Love and Marriage 2017
3. WB Yeats and the Noh Tradition
4. St. Patrick's Day 2017
5. Emoji
6. Royal Sites of Ireland
7. Europa – Castles
8. Centenary of founding of Lions Clubs International
9. Centenary of the Battle of Messines Ridge
10. 150th Anniversary of the death of Thomas Meagher
11. 2017 Women's Rugby World Cup
12. Irish Railway Stations
13. Centenary of the death of Francis Ledwidge
14. Centenary of the birth of Jack Lynch
15. 150th Anniversary of Free Secondary School Education
16. National Ploughing Championships
17. Urban Street Art
18. 50th Anniversary of the death of Che Guevara
19. Postcrossing
20. Centenary of the Apparitions of Fatima
21. Christmas 2017

Name:

Address:

Email Address:

Collector's Account Number:

Your favourite stamp issue in 2017:

Reasons why you chose this issue:

NEWS & INFORMATION

STAMPA 2017

Stampa 2017 round up by Brian Warren, President of the Federation of Philatelic Societies of Ireland.

Stampa 2017 was held at the Griffith Conference Centre, Dublin 8 from 6th to 8th October, 2017. This was the second exhibition to be held at this venue and was once again attended by An Post who, in addition to the usual philatelic presence, exhibited a display on the subject of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. The exhibition continues to be the principal show to meet up with dealers from Ireland, Britain and Germany with two new dealers attending the show as compared to 2016.

The overall award and gold medal went to David Sweeney of Northern Ireland for his traditional exhibit *Italy 1859-1863, Five Momentous Years*. There was a total of 23 competitive displays including two literature exhibits, one of which was *The Post Office in Ireland - An Illustrated History* written by our very own Stephen Ferguson, Assistant Secretary of An Post which also received a gold medal.

A selection of model post-boxes and post vans from Britain, Ireland and overseas were shown courtesy of John Greer and Brian Warren, both keen observers of Irish post boxes. Two real boxes were also on show - an Edward VII lamp box manufactured by Andrew Handyside & Co and a P&T lamp box manufactured by G.L. Murphy of Gorey. The latter box was used for the receipt of a survey sheet completed by attendees to the show and is on loan to Stampa courtesy of the An Post Museum and Archive.

The 2018 show will be held at the same venue from the 5th to 7th October 2018. See www.stampa.ie

Cork Stamp and Coin Exhibition 2017

2017 Cork Stamp and Coin Exhibition roundup by Padraig O'Shea.

The 2017 Cork Stamp & Coin Exhibition took place on 18 November, 2017. A total of 4 dealers with 12 stands took part and attendance was similar to 2016.

An Post reported a busy day with the Jack Lynch stamp selling out on the day and the Che Guevara stamp also proving very popular with the public. As ever collectors enthusiastically filled any gaps in their collections with miniature sheets being particularly popular.

The feeling within the room among the other dealers after the show was that sales had improved again this year and more expensive items were greatly in demand. A charity auction was ran by Paddy Lineen which resulted in someone paying €200 for a Che Guevara First Day Cover, this disappointed several other bidders all of whom bid in excess of €100 for the item.

The wide range of stamps, coins, covers and postcards available was commented on by several local collectors with purses and wallets ransacked enthusiastically as those elusive items were finally added to albums. The local society produced a souvenir booklet with a print run of 125 while show organiser Raven Stamps had an overprinted Irish Railway Stations miniature sheet with Black Overprint (500) available as a door souvenir while there was a Supporters Souvenir limited to 100 overprinted in red. In addition a set of four covers with the Irish Railway Stations stamps was also available.

All souvenirs can be purchased from Raven Stamps, Tel (021) 4271750/0872574309 or by emailing ravenstamps@gmail.com.

Stamp Suggestion Programme 2020

Collectors, please remember we are interested in getting your suggestions for the Stamp Suggestion Programme 2019. If you have an idea that you'd like to be considered, simply send it to us at:

Stamp Suggestion Programme 2020

An Post, 1st Floor, GPO, O'Connell Street, Freepost, Dublin 1, D01 F5P2.

The closing date for receipt of suggestions is 31 March, 2018.

International Events

Spring Stampex: 14-17 February 2018, London

AmeriStamp Expo: 23-25 February 2018, Alabama

World Stamp Exhibition 2018: 15-18 August 2018, Prague

Autumn Stampex: 12-15 September 2018, London

2018 STAMP PROGRAMME

Another year, another new Stamp Programme for collectors to sink their teeth into. The 2018 Stamp Programme* has been carefully put together by our Philatelic Department and consists of 19 issues for you to add to your respective collections. As I'm sure you'll agree, there's something for everyone in 2018.

ISSUE DATE	DESCRIPTION	STAMPS
11-JAN	OPENING OF THE GPO 1818	1
18-JAN	SIR ALFRED CHESTER BEATTY	4
25-JAN	NINTH DEFINITIVE SERIES 'A HISTORY OF IRELAND IN 100 OBJECTS, A SELECTION' PHASE II	8
08-FEB	LOVE AND MARRIAGE	1
22-FEB	ST. PATRICK'S DAY	1
01-MAR	JOHN REDMOND	1
22-MAR	150TH ANNIVERSARY FOUNDING OF THE INTO	1
05-APRIL	INTERNATIONAL STATESMEN	2
03-MAY	EUROPA - BRIDGES	2
24-MAY	NA PÍOBAIRI UILEANN	1
31-MAY	1,400TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF ST KEVIN	4
12-JUL	FAUNA AND FLORA – NATIVE IRISH BEES	4
02-AUG	THE RDS	4
16-AUG	WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES, DUBLIN 2018	2
06-SEP	IRISH SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERIES	4
04-OCT	RMS LEINSTER 1918	1
18-OCT	POPULAR DEMOCRACY	2
08-NOV	ARMISTICE DAY	1
08-NOV	CHRISTMAS	3

*Please note that this schedule may be subject to change.

BICENTENARY OF THE OPENING OF THE GPO

“Happy Birthday GPO.”

This year sees the bicentenary of the opening of probably the best-known building in Ireland: The General Post Office (GPO) in Dublin’s O’Connell Street. The GPO opened for business on January 6, 1818 when O’Connell Street was then called Sackville Street.

The building was designed by architect Francis Johnston and was the last of the great Georgian public buildings to be built in Dublin.

Almost 100 years later, in 1916, the Easter Rising took place, with Dublin at the epicentre of the fighting. The leaders of the rebellion set up headquarters in the GPO and read the Proclamation of the Irish Republic.

As a result, the GPO became the focus of the ire of the British government and it was heavily shelled before burning almost to the ground. All that remained was the façade of the building and it lay in ruins until the Irish Free State government rebuilt it years later.

In 1911 a statue depicting the death of the ancient Irish hero Cú Chulainn was sculpted by Oliver Sheppard and was sited at the command post in the centre of the GPO main hall. Later it was moved to the front of the building, where it still stands.

Today the GPO is the headquarters of An Post, the Irish Post Office and is Dublin's principal Post Office.

The building will always hold a very special place in Irish history and its story is well known among people of all ages in Ireland.

The building itself is still a focal point in the city where people meet, rallies congregate, speeches are made and marches begin and end. It is also and hopefully will always be, a symbol of Irish independence and heroism recognised throughout the country.

The stamp was commissioned to commemorate the bicentenary of the opening of the GPO. It features an image of the GPO which was engraved by Robert Havell and Son and published in 1820 by G.H. Jones.

You can buy this stamp and also the First Day Cover by using the Order Form attached, by calling our sales team on +353 (1) 705 7400 or by visiting our website at **irishstamps.ie** from January 11, 2018.

Technical Details

Date of Issue:	January 11, 2018
Value and Quantity:	€1 (122k)
Stamp Design:	Post Studio
Stamp Size:	51mm x 30mm
Colour:	Multicolour
Paper:	TR Yellow Green Phosphor PVA Gum
Make - up:	Sheetlets of 16
Perforations:	13.3 x 13.3
Printing Process:	Lithography
Printer:	Cartor Security Printing

PRODUCT CODE 1801FDC PRICE €2.00

SIR ALFRED CHESTER BEATTY (1875-1968)

“Celebrating an extraordinary collection.”

Image courtesy of © The Trustees of the Chester Beatty Library, Dublin (Postcard, c.1934. CBL Archives, Ac 2002.266)

PRODUCT CODE 1802MS PRICE €4.00

PRODUCT CODE 1802FDCMS PRICE €5.00

Technical Details

Date of Issue:	January 18, 2018
Values and Quantities:	4 x €1 Strip (208k) €4 Miniature Sheet (15k)
Design:	Zinc Design Consultants
Stamp Size:	30mm x 51mm
Miniature Sheet Size:	150mm x 90mm
Colour:	Multicolour with phosphor tagging
Paper:	Tullis Russell 102gsm PVA gummed
Make - up:	Sheetlets of 16
Perforations:	13.3 x 13.3
Printing Process:	Lithography
Printer:	Cartor Security Printing

PRODUCT CODE 1802FDC PRICE €5.00

Sir Alfred Chester Beatty was born in New York in 1875 and became a mining magnate, philanthropist and one of the most successful businessmen of his generation.

It all started when he graduated as a mining engineer from Columbia University in New York City before heading west in search of his fortune and his own version of the Great American Dream. His first job was shovelling rock in mines in Denver, Colorado. Years later he had built an international reputation as a mining engineer. He established a mining consultancy in New York in 1908 that rapidly became very successful.

In 1911, Beatty’s first wife Grace died of typhoid fever. Not well himself, Beatty fled from the USA and founded a new consultancy in London. In May 1912 he bought Baroda House in London and the following year he married Edith Dunn of New York.

Since childhood Beatty had collected minerals, Chinese snuff bottles and stamps. In London he started a more serious collection of European and Persian manuscripts and in 1914 he and Edith visited Egypt and bought some decorated copies of the Qur'an in the bazaars. The dry climate suited Beatty and he bought a house near Cairo, where he was to spend many winters.

In 1917, during the Great War, he travelled to Asia and added Japanese and Chinese paintings to his interests. It seems he liked the richly illustrated material, fine bindings and beautiful calligraphy while also being deeply committed to preserving historic texts. During the Second World War, Chester Beatty made a significant contribution to supplies of strategic raw materials for the Allies and it was for this effort that he was subsequently knighted.

In 1950 Beatty moved to Ireland and built a library for his art collection on Shrewsbury Road in Dublin 4. It opened in 1954 and in 1957 the government made Chester Beatty Ireland's first ever honorary citizen.

When Beatty died in 1968 the Chester Beatty Library and his incredible collection of African, Asian, European and Middle Eastern manuscripts, rare printed books, prints and objects d'art was bequeathed to a trust for the benefit of the public.

The stamps you see here feature images taken from the Chester Beatty collection. They include Birth of the Virgin, Shah Jahan, Allusions to the Seven Lucky Gods: Daikoku and a portrait photograph of Sir Alfred Chester Beatty himself.

Aside from the Strip of 4 you can buy a Miniature Sheet and First Day Covers by using the Order Form attached, calling +353 (1) 705 7400 or by visiting our website **irishstamps.ie** from January 18, 2018.

NINTH DEFINITIVE SERIES – 'A HISTORY OF IRELAND IN 100 OBJECTS, A SELECTION' PHASE II

PRODUCT CODE 18DBK1 PRICE €10.00

PRODUCT CODE 18DBK2 PRICE €13.50

PRODUCT CODE 18DFDC2 PRICE €5.00

Technical Details

Date of Issue:	January 25, 2018
Value & Quantity:	8 x €1
Stamp Design:	Zinc Design Consultants
Stamp Size:	56mm x 25mm
Paper:	Raflatac Thermal P200
Colour:	Multicolour with phosphor tagging
Make - up:	2 Strips of 4
Perforations:	11mm x 11.25mm approx
Printing Process:	HP Indigo high resolution digital print
Printer:	CCL Label ireland Ltd

PRODUCT CODE 18DFDC1 PRICE €5.00

"PHASE II OF THE NINTH DEFINITIVE STAMP SERIES"

The objects featured on Phase II don't just have stories they tell stories. What they said to their contemporaries may be different from what they say to us. Many of the objects can be seen at the National Museum of Ireland.

These objects include a wooden fish trap from the Mesolithic era, found preserved in a bog in Co. Meath. The St. Patrick's Confessio (460–90) is the oldest surviving example of prose writing in Ireland. The objects were defined as 'a single, man-made entity (does not include Buildings) and are generally freely accessible in public institutions or spaces.'

In January, 2018, the objects featured on the SOAR stamps are the Loughnashade Trumpet, the Keshcarrigan Bowl, the Book of Kells, St. Patrick's Confessio, the Petrie 'Crown', Springmount Wax Tablets, the 'Tara' Brooch and the Ardagh Chalice.

The Loughnashade Trumpet dates from the first century BC and is an outstanding piece of Celtic art. The small Keshcarrigan Bowl of the early first century AD was found in a tributary of the river Shannon and features a superb handle, cast in the shape of a bird's head with a long curving neck.

Often regarded as the greatest work of Irish visual art, the Book of Kells is one of Ireland's greatest cultural treasures and the world's most famous medieval manuscript. The 9th century book is a richly decorated copy of the four Gospels of the life of Jesus Christ.

The Petrie 'crown' dating to the second century AD consists of part of a bronze band with a pair of highly decorated discs and a single surviving conical horn attached to the back of one of these.

This arrangement was then sewn on to a backing of leather or textile to form an elaborate horned head-dress. The Springmount Wax Tablets of c. 600 AD were found in a bog in County Antrim in 1913 and represent the earliest example of Irish handwriting.

Found in Bettystown, County Meath, the eighth-century 'Tara' Brooch is made of cast and gilt silver and is elaborately decorated on both faces. A silver chain made of plaited wire is attached to the brooch. The eighth-century Ardagh Chalice, originally found at Reerasta, Ardagh, County Limerick with other objects, is one of the finest liturgical vessels of the early Christian world. Its beauty lies in the contrast between the plain sheen of the polished silver and the finesse and complexity of the ornamentation. The Ardagh Chalice and the 'Tara' Brooch represent high points in early medieval Irish craftsmanship.

You can buy these stamps in their many formats and the First Day Covers by using the Order Form attached, by calling our sales team on +353 (1) 705 7400 or by visiting our website at **irishstamps.ie** from January 25, 2018.

LOVE AND MARRIAGE

“Our 12th consecutive issue.”

Technical Details

Date of Issue:	February 8, 2018
Value & Quantities:	N (75k) Strip of 2 (10k)
Design	Design HQ
Illustration:	Liz Rackard
Stamp Size:	31.75mm x 31.75mm
Paper:	TR Self-Adhesive Litho
Colour:	Single Colour (PMS 185) with phosphor tagging
Make-up:	Booklets of 10 Collectors' strip of 2
Perforations:	11.33 x 11.33
Printing Process:	Lithography
Printer:	Cartor Security Printing

PRODUCT CODE 1803FDC PRICE €2.00

This year, An Post will issue its ever popular Love and Marriage stamp for the twelfth consecutive year, just in time for St. Valentine’s Day on 14 February.

Every year approximately 150 million Valentine’s Day cards are exchanged around the world and we are delighted that our new stamp will be part of the process.

Valentine’s Day cards first appeared in Britain in the 18th century. This part of the year had been celebrated as a time of love since the early Romans celebrated the feast of Lupercalia from 13-15 February every year.

The first cards were, of course, handmade as commercial interests took a while to realise what was happening.

Sweethearts would decorate paper with romantic symbols that included flowers and love knots and sometimes puzzles and lines of poetry. The cards were then slipped secretly under a door, or tied to a door handle.

The first pre-printed Valentines Day cards appeared in Georgian Britain and it took quite a while for the public to warm to them. The oldest surviving example that we know of dates from 1797 and was sent by Catherine Mossday to a Mr Brown of London.

It was decorated with flowers and images of Cupid and had a verse printed around the border.

In Victorian times, mass production took off with advances in printing and you can find a great many examples of these antique cards in museums and libraries all over the world.

Of course, our 2018 Love & Marriage stamp is not just for St. Valentine’s Day. It also adds a very special and romantic touch to wedding invites, letters, cards and gifts between people who want to express love and affection.

This year’s stamp is based on an illustration by Liz Rackard of a lino-printed heart in red, the colour of passion and romance. As always, our Love & Marriage stamp is available in self-adhesive booklets of ten and is one of the most popular issues we make every year.

You can buy this booklet and the First Day Cover by using the Order Form attached, by calling our sales team on +353 (1) 705 7400 or by visiting our website at **irishstamps.ie** from 8 February, 2017.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

“Ireland's biggest day of the year”

St Patrick’s Day, or the Feast of Saint Patrick as it is officially known, is celebrated on 17 March each year to honour Ireland’s patron saint. It has become one of the biggest and most celebrated saints’ days all around the world, not just here in Ireland. There are parades through the streets of the biggest cities in every corner of earth just as there are through the smallest villages here at home. In fact, it is often said that on 17 March everyone, everywhere, is Irish.

Saint Patrick's Day began to be noticed as a major event as far back as the ninth and tenth centuries when it was celebrated by the Irish in Europe. In the early 1600s it became a holy day of obligation for Roman Catholics in Ireland and then later in the Anglican Church of Ireland calendar. It wasn’t until 1903 that St Patrick's Day became an official public holiday in Ireland.

Today, as you look around the world on 17 March, you’ll see huge celebrations in the United States, Britain, Canada, Argentina, Australia and New Zealand, all of which have very big Irish communities. Interestingly, the largest parades, in terms of size, are in Dublin, New York, in the USA and Birmingham in the UK.

Naturally, 17 March is a public holiday in Ireland (north and south) but surprisingly also in Newfoundland, Labrador and Montserrat, which is known as the "Emerald Island of the Caribbean" because of its founding by Irish refugees.

Saint Patrick's Day itself is widely celebrated by the Irish diaspora around the world with parades notably in Moscow, London, Liverpool, Manchester, Tokyo, Montreal, Buenos Aires, Seoul, Singapore, Sydney, Auckland, Mumbai, Dubai, Istanbul, Oslo and Glasgow. Some of these parades have been taking place for many years but others, such as the Moscow and the Tokyo parades are relatively new events in their respective calendars.

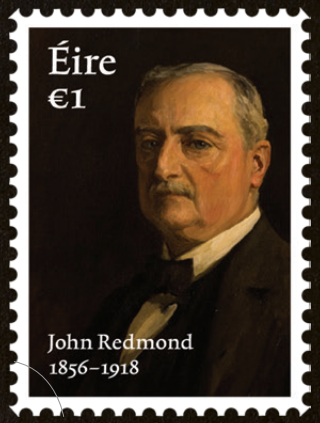
This year An Post will again release a stamp to mark St Patrick’s Day. The new stamp was designed by Dublin-based graphic designers Post Studio and features an image of the saint. This is a detail from St Patrick (1603) which is a rare hand-coloured print engraved by Flemish artist, Adriaen Collaert. The work celebrates the life of Saint Patrick and appears courtesy of The National Gallery of Ireland.

You can buy this stamp and the First Day Cover by using the Order Form attached, by calling our sales team on +353 (1) 705 7400 or by visiting our website at **irishstamps.ie** from February 22, 2017

Technical Details

Date of Issue:	February 22, 2018
Value & Quantity:	€1.35 (94k)
Design:	Post Studio
Stamp Size:	30mm x 51mm
Paper:	Tullis Russell 102gsm PVA gummed
Colour:	Multicolour plus Metallic Gold (PMS 871) with phosphor tagging
Make - up:	Sheetlets of 16
Perforations:	13.3 x 13.3
Printing Process:	Lithography
Printer:	Cartor Security Printing

PRODUCT CODE 1804FDC PRICE €2.35



CENTENARY OF THE DEATH OF JOHN REDMOND

"One of the great contributors to 'Home Rule'"

Image courtesy of John E. Redmond by Sir John Lavery
Collection: Dublin City Gallery The Hugh Lane

Technical Details

Date of Issue:	March 1, 2018
Value & Quantity:	€1 (122k)
Design:	Post Studio
Stamp Size:	29.8mm x 40.6mm
Colour:	Multicolour with phosphor tagging
Paper:	Tullis Russell 102gsm PVA gummed
Make - up:	Sheetlets of 16
Perforations:	13.3 x 13.3
Printing Process:	Lithography
Printer:	Cartor Security Printing

PRODUCT CODE 1805FDC PRICE €2.00

John Edward Redmond (1 September 1856 – 6 March 1918) was an Irish nationalist politician, barrister and Member of Parliament (MP) in the British House of Commons. He was best known for having helped to pass an act in parliament in 1914 that granted 'Home Rule' - a devolved parliament - to Ireland.

Redmond came from an old Irish family, considered to be part of the 'Catholic gentry' of County Wexford. Many of his relatives had been politicians, including his father who was the Home Rule Party MP for Wexford and an older relative who had fought with the United Irishmen in the rising of 1798.

The first unusual thing Redmond did was to study at Trinity College, Dublin, which was regarded as an overwhelmingly Protestant institution at the time. In 1876 he moved into politics when he became his father's assistant in Westminster and it was there that he became a follower of one of the best-known Irish politicians of all time: Charles Stewart Parnell.

Parnell was a charismatic politician and leader of the Nationalist Party which, from 1882, was known as the Irish Parliamentary Party (IPP). Parnell's goal was to rid Ireland of its absentee English landlords who charged their Irish tenants exorbitant rents. The two Irishmen became friends and Parnell supported Redmond's candidacy for the parliamentary seat of New Ross which he won in 1881 when he was just 24 years old.

In 1910, the IPP supported the formation of a Liberal Party government led by HH Asquith.

The price for Redmond's cooperation was bringing the Home Rule bill to parliament. In September 1914 the Irish Home Rule Act granted limited self-government to Ireland but its implementation was interrupted by the outbreak of the First World War.

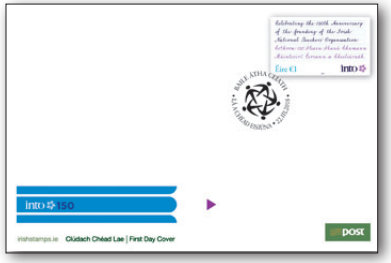
Redmond asked his fellow countrymen to fight alongside Britain to restore the 'freedom of small nations' on the European continent. Many Irish people were angry at this display of allegiance to Westminster. In 1916, they rose in rebellion and the IPP lost its dominance in Irish politics. In the December 1918 general election, the IPP was wiped out and Sinn Féin swept the polls nine months after Redmond's death.

The stamp commissioned by An Post to commemorate the centenary of John Redmond's death features a painting by Sir John Lavery, from The Hugh Lane Gallery.

You can buy this stamp and also the First Day Cover by using the Order Form attached, by calling our sales team on +353 (1) 705 7400 or by visiting our website at **irishstamps.ie** from March 1, 2018.

Technical Details

Date of Issue:	March 22, 2018
Value & Quantity:	€1 (122k)
Design:	Detail
Stamp Size:	51mm x 30mm
Colour:	Light Blue (PMS 312), Light Purple (PMS 254) and Dark Purple (PMS 274) with phosphor tagging
Paper:	Tullis Russell 102gsm PVA gummed
Make - up:	Sheetlets of 16
Perforations:	13.3 x 13.3
Printing Process:	Lithography
Printer:	Cartor Security Printing



PRODUCT CODE 1806FDC PRICE €2.00

"Founded 150 years ago"

The Irish National Teachers' Organisation (INTO) is the oldest and largest teachers' trade union in Ireland.

It represents over 35,000 teachers at primary level in the Republic of Ireland and more than 7,000 teachers at primary and post-primary level in Northern Ireland. Total membership at December 2016 stood at 42,604.

INTO was founded in 1868 to "unite and organise the teachers of Ireland and to provide a means for the expression of their collective opinion on matters affecting the interests of education and of the teaching profession". INTOs head office is in Parnell Square in Dublin and it has another office in Belfast.

In the early years of Irish independence, the INTO took a stand on several fronts, against the marriage bar on women teachers and opposing pay and pension cuts in the new state. The struggles later culminated in significant INTO events such as the lengthy 1946 strike, the campaign for pay parity with post-primary teachers and opposition to the takeover of schools by members of religious orders.

In the 20th century, teachers took on a new and more varied, child centred school programme. Between 1912 and 1920, the INTO also had its first female president, registered as a trade union, elected its first full-time general secretary and fought a wide range of campaigns both on individual cases and on pay conditions.

As a union, it was also established to protect its members and to work towards improving their working conditions and to promote their interests.

It provides advice and help to members and promotes equality in the teaching profession and the education sector whilst lobbying the governments in Ireland, Northern Ireland, the UK and Europe on behalf of its members.

One of INTOs most important aims is to support the concept of equal access to full education for all children. It also strives for the raising of educational standards throughout the island of Ireland.

The stamp you see here was designed by Dublin design studio Detail. It depicts the words "Celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the founding of the Irish National Teachers' Organisation" as if hand-written in a child's school copy book. It is repeated in Irish.

You can buy this stamp and also the First Day Cover by using the Order Form attached, by calling our sales team on +353 (1) 705 7400 or by visiting our website at **irishstamps.ie** from March 22, 2017

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Love and Marriage 2017

Issue Date: 02 February, 2017

Withdrawal date: 02 February, 2018

An Post issued its ever popular Love and Marriage stamp for the eleventh consecutive year in 2017. The stamp, designed by Zero-G, is a stylised drawing of a pair of lovebirds kissing. The illustration – in gold, on a plain background – incorporates a love heart surrounding the birds.

WB Yeats and The Noh Tradition 2017

Issue Date: 09 February, 2017

Withdrawal date: 09 February, 2018

Designed by Zinc Design Consultants, the stamp is based on W.B. Yeats' play At the Hawk's Well. The mask and headdress is depicted in a Japanese style. The original stage backdrop used a large black cloth, represented in the stamp by the black background. The use of gold foil in the golden wings and mask illustrates the Japanese oriental design culture. The red circle represents the sun. This symbol is very significant in Japanese culture, as demonstrated by its prominence on the Japanese Flag, while the W.B. Yeats' signature depicts the Irish connection.

St Patrick's Day 2017

Issue Date: 23 February, 2017

Withdrawal date: 23 February, 2018

An Post issued a stamp to mark St Patrick's Day in 2017. Last year's stamp was designed by Aaron Canning. The design is minimal using Celtic lines but in a modern manner. This references the old (Celtic lines and weaving) and importantly the new (mix of thick and thin lines).

Emoji

Issue Date: 16 March, 2017

Withdrawal Date: 16 March, 2018

Emoji are the little symbols/icons (smiley faces) used within text messages of mobile phones to add a tone or mood to a text. They were first created in Japan in 1999 by engineer Shigetaka Kurita. Initially, there were just 172 of the little pictures, and they were used on the company's i-mode phone. The stamps were designed by the Stone Twins and feature numerous emoji with the positive messages 'Don't Worry' and 'Be Happy'.

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